

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS

JULY 14, 2009

**Criminal Background Checks for County Contractors
Agenda Item 17**

The Board of Supervisors is considering adopting a proposal from the Chief Executive Officer for accessing criminal history information for all Los Angeles County ("County") employees and candidates for employment with the County. Included in this proposal is an instruction for the Acting Director of Personnel to study the feasibility of phasing in the implementation of a criminal background check process for existing and future contractors who do business with the County.

It is unclear how many current and new contractors will be affected by the proposal. It is also not clear on the number, type and size of the companies which will be affected.

It is important to ensure that persons doing business with the County do not pose a threat to County employees, residents or constituents. However, it is also important that criminal background checks for existing and proposed contractors are done fairly, in compliance with the Equal Employment laws and regulations, and are related to the work for which the contractor is or will be engaged. It is also important that such

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**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
JULY 14, 2009
PAGE TWO**

background checks do not undermine or discourage County efforts to provide employment opportunities for persons who are working diligently to turn away from their criminal pasts and begin a new way of life, free from criminal activity.

I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

(1) Remove from the Chief Executive Officer's letter of July 14, 2009 entitled "Assessing Criminal History Information on County Employees and Candidates for Employment with the County of Los Angeles" the section "d" related to conducting a study on the feasibility of phasing in the implementation of local, State and federal criminal background checks for "existing and future contractors."

(2) Direct the Chief Executive Officer to report back within sixty (60) days with a summary of the number and size of contractors and contracting entities currently doing business with the County, along with a summary of the types of work such contractors are engaged; and

(3) Direct the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a separate Board letter requesting a study on the feasibility of phasing in the implementation of local State, and federal criminal background checks for existing and future contractors.

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